

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS ANKARA 4780

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MASS TU CY GR

SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REACTION; DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS QUESTION

REF: ANKARA 4747

1. MEDIA COVERAGE OF DEVELOPMENTS FOLLOWING THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT TUESDAY CONCERNING BILATERAL DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS REMAINED HEAVY OVER THE PAST 24 HOURS (JUNE 18-19).

2. PRO-GOVERNMENT PAPERS, INCLUDING TERCUMAN, SON HAVADIS, AND ZAFER GAVE BANNER HEADLINE PLAY IN THURSDAY (JUNE 19) EDITIONS TO A STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL THAT  
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"TURKEY WOULD GO WITHOUT FOOD OR DRINK, BUT WOULD DEFEND HER

HONOR." OPPOSITION PAPERS, INCLUDING CUMHURIYET AND PRO-ECEVIT BARIS, GAVE TOP PLAY TO A STATEMENT BY ECEVIT FOLLOWING HIS INTERVIEW WEDNESDAY WITH PRESIDENT KORUTURK IN WHICH HE DECLARED THAT THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT IS "CONTRARY TO THE REALITY OF THE TIMES". A TELEVISION INTERVIEW WEDNESDAY EVENING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL IN WHICH HE ELABORATED THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE STATUS OF COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS RECEIVED ONLY MODERATE PRESS PLAY. (SEE SEPTELS).

3. IN OTHER COVERAGE, SENSATIONALIST HURRIYET ON JUNE 19 REPORTED THAT SOME U.S. INSTALLATIONS WILL BE GIVEN A NEW STATUS AND OTHERS DISBANDED EVEN IF THE ARMS EMBARGO LIFTED. THE ARTICLE ALSO STATED THAT DURING THE "TRANSITIONAL STATUS" TURKISH PERSONNEL WOULD HAVE THE POWER OF COMMAND AT THE BASES. FINALLY, SHOULD IT BECOME CLEAR THAT THE EMBARGO WILL NOT BE LIFTED, ACTIVITIES AT THE BASES WOULD HALT.

4. HURRIYET ALSO REPORTED IN A BRIEF ITEM FROM ITS NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT, DOGAN ULUC, THAT A GROUP OF TURKISH PARLIAMENTARIANS HEADED BY JUSTICE PARTY SENATOR KAMRAN INAN HAD COMPLETED A ROUND OF CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON. IN AN INTERVIEW, INAN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT MANY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE ARE SEEKING A WAY TO END THE EMBARGO, BUT THAT THE QUESTION HAD BECOME ONE OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL BARGAINING AMONG REPRESENTATIVES WITH ETHNIC GROUP CONSTITUENCIES.

5. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THURSDAY EDITIONS FOLLOWED PREDICTABLE LINES.

6. CONSERVATIVE, PRO-GOVERNMENT TERCUMAN PRAISED THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S MOVE ON THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AS "BOTH IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONS AND PRECEDENTS AND AT THE SAME TIME BEFITTING A DETERMINED AND WELL ESTABLISHED NATION." TERCUMAN WARNED THE EXTREME LEFT THAT EVEN IF TURKEY'S 30 YEAR ALLIANCE AND FRIENDSHIP WITH THE U.S. IS DAMAGED, "OUR PLACE WILL BE NEITHER WITH THE SOVIET BLOC OR THE THIRD WORLD."

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7. ABDI IPEKCI, EDITOR OF LIBERAL, PRO-RPP MILLIYET, NOTES THAT TURKEY HAS VARIOUS STRENGTHS IN THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ARENA, INCLUDING HER STRATEGIC LOCATION. THESE STRENGTHS, HE SAID, WERE PROPERLY EXPLOITED BY THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT IN SUCH ISSUES AS POLLY CULTIVATION AND THE CYPRUS OPERATIONS. BUT THE U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN NATIONS, BECAUSE THEY ARE SURE THE PRESENT TURKISH GOVERNMENT CANNOT AFFORD TO DAMAGE RELATIONS WITH THEM, HAVE BECOME

HARsher IN THEIR DEMANDS. "THAT IS WHY THE AMERICAN CONGRESS DID NOT REFRAIN FROM CONTINUING THE ARMS EMBARGO IT BEGAN AGAINST THE IRMAK GOVERNMENT AND WHY DEMIREL MET WITH PRESSURE INSTEAD OF UNDERSTANDING FROM WESTERN STATESMEN WITH WHOM HE TALKED IN BRUSSELS," IPEKCI CONCLUDED.

8. IN ANOTHER COMMENTARY IN MILLIYET, ALI GEVGILILIDECLARED THAT THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT HAS SHOWN ITSELF WILLING TO RAISE A BASIC QUESTION BY BRINGING TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATION TO A TEST: "...EVEN WITH THE DEMIREL ADMINISTRATION, TURKEY...HAS REACHED A POINT OF NO RETURN. IF THE ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. TOWARDS THE TURKISH PEOPLE DOES NOT CHANGE, TURKEY'S APPROACHES MAY CHANGE..."

9. LEFT-LIBERAL CUMHURIYET COLUMIST ALI SIRMEN SHARPLY ATTACKED THE 30-DAY PERIOD GRANTED TY THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT, ASSERTING THAT DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN GOING ON BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE UNITED STATES SINCE THE EMBARGO WAS IMPOSED. HE CHARGED THAT, BY SAYING TURKEY WOULD APPLY TO NATO COUNTRIES TO HELP MEET HER DEFENSE COMMITMENTS, DEMIREL HAS SHOWN THAT HE HAS NOT UNDERSTOOD THE TRUE NATURE OF NATO, WHICH IS UNDER THE "COMPLETE DOMINATION" OF THE U.S.  
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